

PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Mid-Autumn Moon Festival Celebration  
at the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden**

*Sunday, October 1, 2006; 10am-4:30pm  
Admission by Donation*

*Vancouver, BC (September 7, 2006)* - The Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden will host a Mid-Autumn Moon Festival to celebrate the second biggest holiday in the Chinese calendar. We invite everyone to take part in this exciting event on **Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 10:00am until 4:30pm**. Admission is by donation.

The Garden's celebration will include moon cake sampling (traditional round pastry served especially for this festival filled with red bean, lotus paste, egg yolks, or nuts) generously donated by Keefer Bakery and craft activities for the young and young-at-heart with prizes sponsored by VanCity. Fascinating fortunes will be told using joss sticks and an introduction to the game of Mahjong will take place – visitors can try their hand! Cultural performances feature a group of 10 *guzheng* students, as well as demonstrations of different forms of Tai Chi by a master group. The B.C. Qualified Acupuncturists and T.C.M. Practitioners Association will give a fascinating introduction to China's ancient healing arts. The Garden's art exhibit areas will feature artist *Lynne Dagg*'s unique cedar bark contemporary calligraphy, influenced by her B.C. coastal settings. We welcome everyone to participate in this fun-filled family cultural experience!

**Backgrounder on the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival**

The 1000- year- old tradition of the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival celebrates the moon as a deity of utmost reverence. In Chinese culture, the roundness of the full moon symbolizes togetherness, harmony, and family unity. The Mid-Autumn Moon Festival, held on the fifteenth day of the lunar eighth month when the moon appears the largest and brightest, is when Chinese families around the world gather to celebrate the end of the harvest season. This ancient tradition allows time for the family to unite in a perfect circle like the moon - unbreakable, never-ending, and harmonious. In other parts of Asia such as India and Korea, a similar harvest festival time is also celebrated.

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